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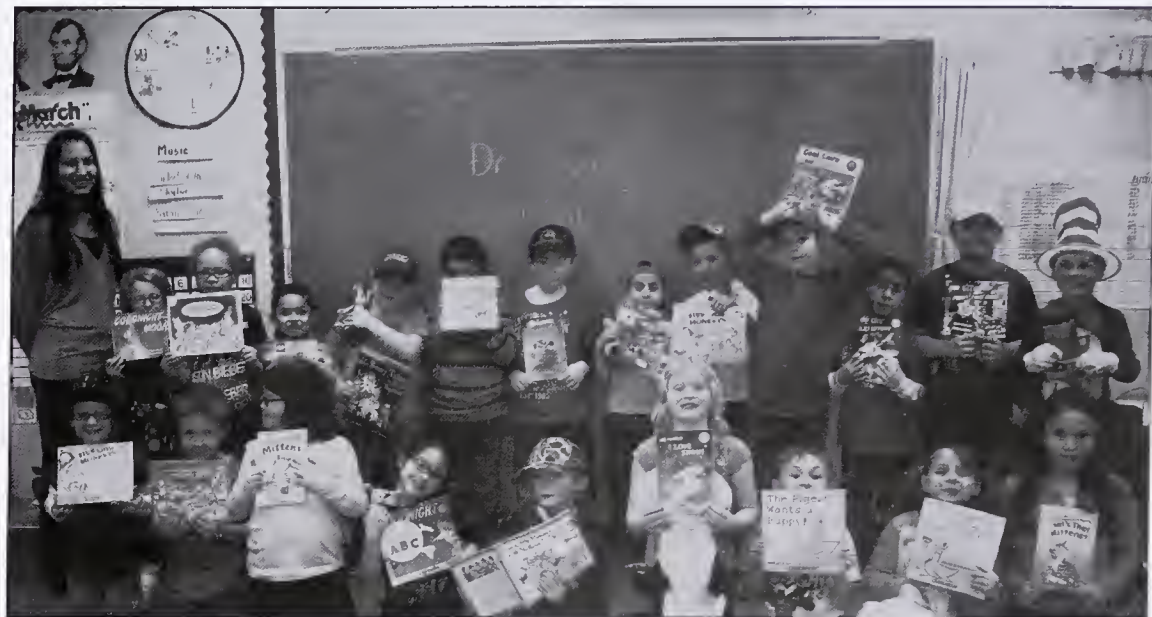
By Allison Stanton
Staff Writer

Dr. Seuss' birthday, March 2nd, was also a day that children across the country were given the gift of reading. The National Education Association's reading motivation program, "Read Across America," gives students in public schools the opportunity to celebrate books.

Created in 1998, this program centered around promoting student reading has been giving young students to chance to read books, bring a book home, as well as hear one being read to them. Increasing reading skills in children is the main purpose of this program, according the National Education Association website.

Senior Elementary Education major Margaret Schmitt received a CLASS (Community Learning Through America's Schools) grant from the National Education Association's (NEA) Student Program to utilize the program in North White Elementary school.

Schmitt led the event at North White Elementary and gave the students many different experiences. She was assisted by junior Elementary Education majors Jessica Bealor, Heather Kwiecinski, Melia Paulino, and Kasey Ewen, and English education freshman Allison Stanton. Several classes participated in this celebration, mainly first and second grade classes. Each class received a birthday cake with Dr. Seuss' legendary character "The Cat in the Hat," celebrating the birthday of one of America's most recognizable writers. Each class was also assigned a different book that one of the college's elementary education students read to them while they enjoyed their cake. These included:



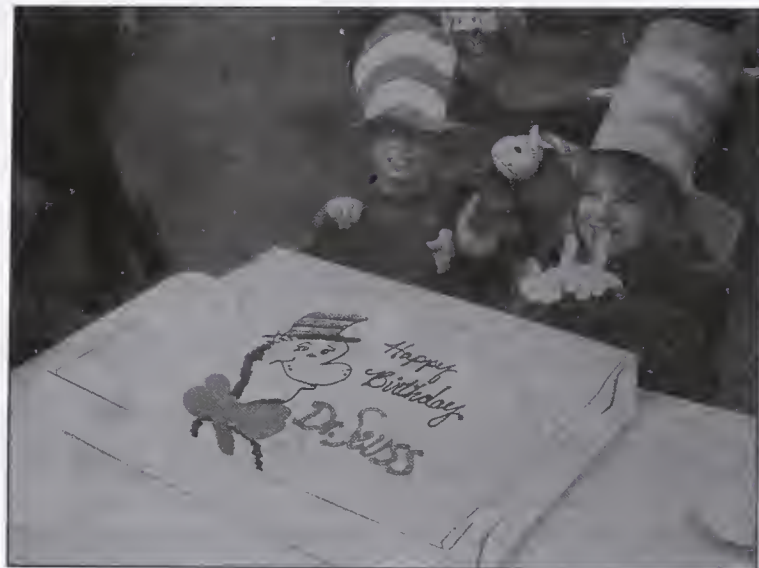
One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish, Oh, the Thinks You Can Think! and the newly re-popularized The Lorax.

Aside from being read these books, the children also were able to pick out a book that interested them, and take it home. The goal of this activity is to promote an active communication about reading between the student and the parents or guardians, which helps increase reading abilities in American students to increase.

A unique spin that Schmitt brought to her plans for this event was that she included bilingual books for the children who speak both English and Spanish, allowing the parents at home to be able to read with their child. No language barrier would prevent the children from reading with their parents. After the children had decided on their books, they settled into the class and made their own unique bookmarks for their newly picked books. "Read Across America" is a program that requires diligence in its planning, as well as its performing; however, this program is surely a program that benefits many areas of the community, not just

Photos courtesy of Margaret Schmitt.

(Top) Elementary Education junior Heather Kwiecinski stands with a first grade class and each student holds the new book they received during the program. (Bottom) Two second-graders dressed to celebrate Dr. Seuss stand by the cake.



the classroom that it is allowed into. "This is an exciting and productive experience for our members," said Schmitt. "I hope the books will make a tremendous difference to the students at North White Primary and hope to get our College chapter more actively involved."

According to the press release,

"The NEA Student Program is a grassroots organization that serves more than 67,000 students nationwide who are preparing for jobs in the education profession. NEA Student Program goals include providing opportunities for professional development and leadership training and advocating for student member concerns."

Seifert-sponsored "Biggest Loser" competition winners announced

By Rachel King
Staff Writer

The Biggest Loser Competition sponsored by Seifert West ended March 1. The competition went very well, and roughly twenty people gave the program full participation from beginning to end. Several other students participated in part of the program.

The competition did not just include exercise and diet individually, but also had different activities scheduled. One activity the competition participants

gathered for was a Zumba program, which is an exercise dance program.

On average, the participants lost about 2.5% of their body weight, and found ways to exercise. The first place winner was junior Elementary Education major Meghan Dempsey and the second place winner was Sophomore Accounting major LaMichelle Sanders. Sanders said, "It may seem like a cliché thing, but a change in your diet and more exercise can go a long way."



Campus group discusses, reviews "Against Love"

By F.H. Gonzalez
Staff Writer

This month, Dr. Johanna Hunter is working along with Multi-cultural Affairs and Diversity Coalition to form a discussion group on the book, *Against Love*. The event is geared toward raising awareness of women's issues. Since March is National Women's history month, Dr. Hunter chose Laura Kipnis' novel, *Against Love*. The group has met once for a preliminary discussion on the book, and plans to meet again on March 29 for an extended discussion.

Against Love is a story about the extra-marital relationships of several women, and their own disdain for their current monogamous partners. Kipnis captures the sensitivities of the modern world, and how difficult it can be for women in the modern age to continue relationships they may not remain committed to. The book also concerns itself with the questions about the concept of love and how women will have difficulty finding this concept easy to follow once engrained in a relationship with a partner they don't really want to spend the rest of their lives with.

The book discussion also coincides with other campus displays regarding women's history month, including artwork

displayed in the Core Building hallways. On March 15, a film and discussion was held at the Shen Auditorium. All of this was planned to commemorate this month, and Dr. Hunter said,

"More participants are welcome. I would encourage students who are considering reading the book and joining our group to be in touch with me so they can be added to the email list."

LAURA KIPNIS AGAINST LOVE a polemic

“Will all the adulterers in the room please stand up? This means all you cheating wives, philandering husbands, and straying domestic partners, past, present, and future. Those who find themselves fantasizing a lot, please rise also. So may those who have ever played supporting roles in the adultery melodrama: “other man,” “other woman,” suspicious spouse or marital detective (“I called your office at three and they said you’d left!”), or least fun of all, the miserable cuckold or cuckoldess. Which, of course, you may be, without (at least, consciously) knowing that you are. Feel free to take a second to mull this over, or to make a quick call: “Hi hon, just checking in!”

Photo courtesy of Jessica Ruschke
The *Against Love* is part of the National Women's History month activities

Student Association changes leadership

By Jessica Ruschke
Staff Writer

The Student Association has experienced a recent change in leadership. On Monday, March 12 the Student Association held a meeting to deal with the fact the former president and vice president of the Student Association were unable to fulfill their duties.

The Association passed a resolution that stated that if the president and vice president were both unable to fulfill their duties the secretary would assume the post of president. Then, the constitution states the president will appoint a vice president if the vice president can no longer hold the office.

As the secretary fo the Student Association, sophomore Mass Communication major Katie Dittman stepped



Photos courtesy of Facebook.com
Sophomore Mass Communication major and sophomore Political Science major Colby Alexis have assumed the posts of President and Vice President of the Student Association.

into the role of president and appointed sophomore Political Science major Colby Alexis to the office of vice president.

As of right now, the two are trying to get used to their new positions. “We are trying to work on cleaning up the mess that was left for us,” said Dittman.

These changes have left a vacancy for the post of



secretary. The student body will have the opportunity to participate in elections to fill the post. Election packets for candidates are available in the Dean of Students Office. These packets are due Wednesday, March 28. The elections are scheduled for the following week. Any interested students are encouraged to run.



AG Silver performs campus concert

By Erin Hill
Staff Writer

The stage was dimmed, with smoke filling the room. One by one four people walked up on stage and picked up an instrument and started to play the opening song. As they started to play, the lights flashed in an array of colors, moving to the beat of the song.

On Thursday March 15, 2012, the band called AG Silver made their appearance at Saint. Joseph's College. “They are one of the best bands that comes to St. Joe. I highly enjoy them every time they come,” said senior English major Brandon Bennett.

This group started back in the ninth grade. Their name was made at the last minute before entering a high school talent contest. So from then on, the name stuck.

The four performers that make up this group are, Jon Ornée

(Vocals/Keys/Guitar/Random Drums), Chris McKellar (Guitars/BGVs/Random Drums), Craig Vanderwier (Drums/Random Drums/Golf), and Josh Blom (Bass/Keys/BGVs/Random Drums).

Sophomore History and Philosophy double major Ben Kessler said, “I wasn't really planning to go the AG Silver concert until a friend asked me to go, but I was blown away by them. The vocals were superb. They have a rocking bass and a killer drummer. To be honest I rocked an air guitar from time to time during their concert.”

They played older songs and a couple from their new album coming out this spring. A couple songs they played were “Now Or Never” and “Ms. Michigan”. All of their songs had the whole ballroom clapping and singing along and having a great time. After the show, students had the opportunity to meet the band and ask them questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

3/22 - 3/25 Kairos 61

3/23 Improv group performance

3/25 Lenten Choir Concert

4/1 Band Concert

4/5 - 4/9 Easter Break

4/14 Spring Musical - 1940's Radio Hour

4/17 SJC Undergraduate Colloquium



Walk in My Shoes: Life as an Atheist

By Taylor Parks
Opinions Writer

Atheists, or what some call “non-believers,” are sometimes associated with devil worship or Satanism or just simply being evil people. This is why I kept my personal beliefs to myself for years. I never wanted to be associated with something like worshipping the devil. In fact, I do not worship anything which is why I would label myself an atheist. I am an open minded person and believe everyone is entitled to their own beliefs and opinions and as long as they do not hurt someone else. If your beliefs are not harming anyone, then keep on trucking.

However, I expect that same open-mindedness from others and that is not typically what I am met with. For example, just a couple weeks ago, I was at the wonderful event called “Pack the Pub” and was talking to a few friends when an acquaintance, who will remain nameless, turned around and said “Yeah, you are the girl that is an atheist. Let’s go talk to someone else.” I thought to myself, really am I really being ostracized for this?”

I feel like after being mostly done with the Core program acceptance has been preached to me until I am blue in the face. I was always afraid my friends and family would not accept me if they

knew of my non-believing but after a while I just couldn’t keep my opinion to myself anymore. I had to let people know why I have this super confused look on my face 80% of the time in Core discussion and lecture. Sometimes the comments and questions that come from people of any kind of religious faith boggle my mind.

Now, once again I am open and I am not knocking people for their basic religious faiths, however that does not mean I understand them and quite frankly some of their beliefs are a little silly. I also realize most of my peers do not understand why I do not believe in Jesus or God or a heaven and basically feel that when we die, we die; period. We don’t have to understand each other to get along we just need to be accepting. The only time this becomes an issue is in politics and lawmaking and since I am absolutely no expert I will spare you my opinion.

But my issue is not trying to make people understand me or even attempting to understand others, I just want the same respect that everyone else gets. Trust me, I have heard several Christians in my lifetime say that the Muslim beliefs are ridiculous and how can they believe that there are virgins waiting for them in heaven after they die, but then to their faces are as respectful as can be and are even friends with some of them. So please show me

that respect and do not assume that I am some evil human with no morals. I have morals; they just don’t come from a specific faith. For me, I do not need a promise of a lifetime of floating around with angel wings or a

threat of burning for all eternity to want to be a good human being. I make mistakes yes, but I don’t pray for forgiveness, I change my ways. I do not worship the devil; I worship life, this one, right here, right now.

Have your voice be heard!

Are there people or groups on campus that you think deserve to be recognized for their contributions to the campus community?

Are their concerns in *the Observer* that need to be addressed?

Do you have any concerns with policies on campus?

Are there issues you think need to be discussed?

Tell us about it! The Student Forum is your way to speak out and have your voice be heard. Please send your letters to Meigan Rennels at mrq7698@saintjoe.edu attached as a Word document.

Online Courses at SJC

By Rande Portteus
Opinions Wtiers

Should Core 2 be allowed to be taken online? The answer to this question is a little trickier than you may think. However, I believe that I have a unique persepective on the subject, given that I took most of my high school courses online. I was homeschooled from sixth grade until twelfth grade, and what most people thought of when I said this was that I took naps, did crafts, and learned about Jesus. What this actually meant was the I busted my butt to barely fulfill the graduation requirement for the program I used through Indiana University, learned a whole lot of self-discipline, and spent a lot of my time getting insults thrown at me for being a homeschooler. But I survived it, and maybe even came out better for it.

Taking a course online has both advantages and disadvantages. You can work at your own pace, within the time restrictions of the course. I don’t know what exactly this would be for Core 2 (Five weeks? Eight weeks? Twelve weeks?), but whatever it is should be a reasonable amount. A student who learns faster may bolt through the material, while a student who learns more slowly could take their time. However, with this comes a disadvantage. With no attendance grade or actual classes to attend, it would be easier to ignore or forget

assignments. Since those taking Core 2 are already in college, this might be fairly easy to overcome, since by then most people know what college is like and the work you have to put in to succeed. But again, it’s easy to let it just slip your mind.

Another issue with taking Core 2 online is that interaction with professors and other students is an invaluable part of the Core Program, and of learning in general. Begin in a classroom and interacting and discussing with other students was one of the things I enjoyed most about coming back to “regular” school. I had really missed the give-and-take exchange of ideas between people when I was homeschooled. How much of this would be lost with an online course? How much could be replaced? Would online message boards and discussion forums, like the ones on Moodle, replace discussion in classrooms? Would e-mails from professors take the pace of face-to-face interaction? How much of this is necessary to actually learn something from the class?

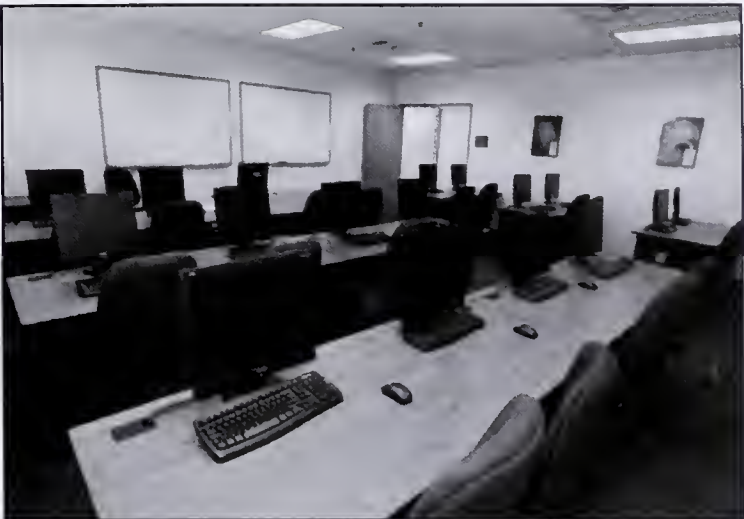
Well, that’s an answer I can’t give you. I don’t know enough about how the online Core 2 would work specifically to give a concrete opinion with reasons to back it up. I would need to know more details of how it would work before I could fairly form any sort of opinion. What I can tell you is this: online learning does work, if it’s done properly and if you have the drive to do it. I know this from

experience. I learned just as much as any of my current friends and classmates from homeschooling and online schoolwork as they did in public or private high school. I have the utmost faith in St. Joe’s that that they could make a program like this work. Whether all of the student would have what it takes to do the program? I can’t answer that question either.

And something else I can’t say is whether the loss of face-to-face interaction would be worth it. As I said, it really is invaluable. I’m in Dr. Malone’s Core 4 class this semester and his prompting along with the discussion my classmates offer is allowing me to get more out of a Core class than I ever have before (nothing against my former Core teachers and classes – all of them were great, as well). I did miss out on

an exchange of ideas with other while I was homeschooled. You learn things from other people that you wouldn’t on your own. And there are ways to simulate this – as message boards, e-mails, instant messaging – but it’s never quite the same.

So I leave you with this. The opinions I have of online courses in general and the fact that I think it most certainly could be done. Would it be successful? I have no idea. What do you think? If you have more opinions, or another opinion entirely, don’t hesitate to speak up! E-mail Meigan Rennels with your opinion and she’ll put it in here. Have your voice be heard. I really am interested to see what other have to say on this topic.



What do you think of online classes? (Photo courtesy of Google Image).

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We, the newspaper staff of *The Observer*, while exercising our First Amendment rights to freedom of speech, promise to adhere to the highest journalistic standards. *The Observer* will not print articles, editorials, or other material that misquote or misrepresent members or organizations within the Saint Joseph’s College community. While constantly striving to meet these goals, we can and will print retractions amending or remedying any problems brought to our attention.

Best of Core: Part 1

By Adam Ruggles
Features Writer

In a few weeks, I will officially become an alumnus of Saint Joseph's College. One of the major reasons I chose to attend this college four years ago was the Core program. To this day, I continue to see great value in the Core program. I remember hearing from my admissions counselor about the Core program and how I could fulfill my general studies without having to take any math classes, which were never really my forte. Upon hearing this, Saint Joseph's College became even more attractive. As my time with the Core program winds down, I wish to reflect on the great works read during the previous four years. It is no secret that students often times fail to complete all of their Core readings. Even though every work in Core is picked for specific, important reasons and, therefore, should be read, I found that there are certainly some works that shine above others. In this special two-part article, I have compiled a list recognizing an exceptionally strong Core book from each Core (excluding 5, 6, and 10 because 5 and 6 do not have books per se and each section of Core 10 has different assigned readings). The first half of that list is as follows:

Core I: George Orwell's

1984 – This 1949 masterpiece is a renowned literary classic. Orwell's dystopian, government-dominated portrayal of Oceania (the society in which the story takes place) is fascinating. Orwell's work challenges the reader to compare Orwell's prediction to the world's contemporary situation. Upon doing this, one may find a lot more similarities than are immediately apparent. For me, this book was a terrifying, yet fascinating, glance into

an existence I hope never to experience.

Core II: Voltaire's *Candide* – This work was a pure joy to read as it offered a humorous, satirical view of the human condition in the modern world. Moreover, I remember several times while reading *Candide* in which I found myself smirking and some of the events that unfolded within those pages. While largely being quite humorous, *Candide* also manages to cover serious

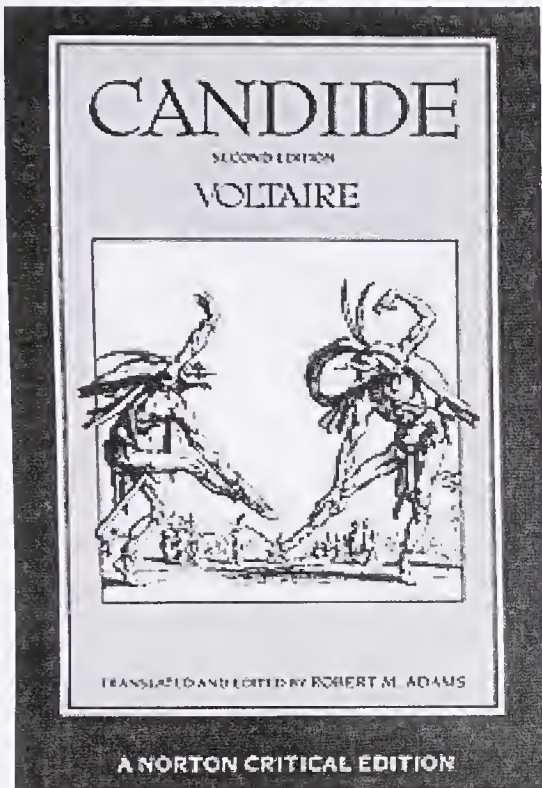
topics, including the problem of evil and a refutation of the modern philosopher Gottfried Leibniz's principle of the best (i.e., Basically, Leibniz argues that God's perfection necessitates that his actions are only directed towards the best. Therefore, this world must be the best of all possible worlds because if there existed within God the idea of another, better possible world, our world would be it). Voltaire's ability to humorously critique the human condition cements his place on this list.

Core III: Homer's *The Odyssey* - After the Bible of course, the work that stood out most to me in Core III was *The Odyssey*. Odysseus' journey back to Ithaca is an exciting tale of epic proportions and lessons to be learned. One particular message Homer conveys is the heroic nature necessary to deal and cope with the setbacks, sorrows, and tragedies of everyday life. Some may dismiss this epic as dated, confusing, or dare I say, boring, without realizing that they are reading a timeless piece of literature that continues to have a place in the world today. Few works have been as important as *The Odyssey* in shaping Western culture and literature and because of this feature alone, Homer's work demands to be read by

all who wish to call themselves cultured and learned individuals.

Core IV: Dante Alighieri's *Inferno* – Upon awaking in the infamous dark wood, readers are immediately aware that this mid-life journey will lead them through the darkest aspect of humanity, namely sin. Dante's *Inferno* is a tremendous poem which, among other things, effectively captures Dante's notion of the problems plaguing the medieval world. Perhaps the most fascinating aspect of the *Inferno* is Dante's use of contrapassos (i.e., one's sin effectively turning against the sinner). For example, those guilty of gluttony are forced to remain eternally miserable in a constant rain of filth and sewage. Moreover, the sheer complexity of the poem (e.g., the layers upon layers of symbolism, the pervading presence of the number three, and the numerous tormented souls that are encountered, etc.) compels several readings in order to fully understand the poem. The complexity of the overall work, it is nothing short of overwhelming and forces readers to appreciate the literary talent of Dante Alighieri.

Make sure to look for the second half of this article in the next issue of The Observer.



Does The Artist Live Up To the Hype?

By Corey Dowds
Features Editor

If you happened to catch The Oscars this year, you know that a movie titled *The Artist* won the award of "Best Picture." The first question that ran through many people's minds, including my own, was "What is this movie?" Well, *The Artist* is a black and white silent film. I was fairly skeptical myself on how good the movie could be. I thought to myself about how the academy is so pretentious that they chose this movie over one of the best movies of all time, *Drive*. Of course *Drive* was not able to win best picture, mostly because it was too good, but that is neither here nor there. Despite my skepticism, my curiosity was piqued. How good could this silent film be? Is there a chance for genuine entertainment among a plane of ambiguity? Well, my questions were answered upon spending a weekend in Chicago and watching the movie, and to be completely honest, I was dead wrong! *The Artist*, while not better than *Drive*, I respect it and acknowledge it as a worthy movie of receiving "Best Picture."

The movie *The Artist* is a 2011 French film, that is a unique blend of romantic comedy mixed with drama. The black and white silent aspect of the film is used as a parody to the movie itself, and to make unique jokes that cannot be pulled off in any other type of format. The movie takes place between 1927 and 1932 and addressed the personal story of two actors and the transition

from black and white silent films into what they call "talkies" or movies with speaking roles in them, as we know them today. The story follows George Valentin (Jean Dujardin) a beloved silent film actor in Hollywood. Supported by Al Zimmer (John Goodman), Valentin is the Brad Pitt of his day, and is no way humble about it. His not so humble actions actually have a reverse effect on the audience. Instead of finding him offensive and obnoxious, we as the audience instantly love him as he revels in the limelight in his own hilarious manner, aided by his sidekick in reality and in his movies Jack the dog (Uggie, who many people actually suggested be nominated for "Best Supporting Actor"). After years of on screen success, Valentin is forced to go solo when abandoned by his producer, Zimmer. When the movie that Valentin produces goes under, his life goes to hell quickly as he is outshined by the young and charming actress Peppy Miller (Benenice Bejo). As his fame declines, Valentin grows increasingly depressed as Miller is a rival and a love interest. Valentin actually spurred Miller's career, as she was going to be kicked off the set by Miller for a simple mistake she made, Valentin insisted she stay on the set. The movie only gets more and more interesting from there.

The admirable aspect of this movie is the thought that is seemingly effortless that was put into it. In a society that loves to be constantly entertained

via explosions and giant robots fighting, this movie chooses to be careful with its cinematic decisions. In today's Hollywood, there is no guarantee that a movie which puts such a concise effort into what each scene appears aesthetically and from all angles. To read the character's realistic facial expressions is invaluable to the whole experience. In today's Hollywood, box office success is seemingly guaranteed as long as you have explosions and Jason Statham starring in it, and a movie that disregards that, I tip my hat too.

I can only attempt to epitomize what the movie attempts in terms of simple style.

In one scene, where Valentin is walking across the street by himself, away from everyone else including the audience, there is one thing noticeable to people watching closely. This is the time when he is spiraling towards his lowest point, and in the background there is a movie banner displaying the title playing at the theater. The title is *Lone Star*. The movie uses the title of banner to the theater to convey the situation! George Valentin is a *Lone Star*! I love that stuff.

A movie that is bold in terms of style and pulls it off, I comment. *The Artist* is a movie that has serious character development and character's

stories that are actually depressing. Another great thing about this movie is it stays traditional in terms of honoring the parody on old black and white movies. It doesn't take itself too seriously, which allows the audience to laugh at anything or everything the characters do. If you haven't seen this movie, see it, even if you're a skeptic like me. Portraying comedy and drama in a bold and unique way that is a mixture of old and modern, it's an experience that is not duplicable. *The Artist* is a cinematic achievement, worthy of awards and a 10/10 from yours truly.



George Valentin, sporting his trademark smile.

Image from <http://www.filmofilia.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/The-Artist1.jpg>

Anya's Ghost Will Haunt You

By Randee Porteus
Features Writer

Anya's Ghost is a captivating young adult graphic novel by relative newcomer to the industry, Vera Brosgol. Brosgol was born in Russia in 1984 and moved to the United States at age five. She has published a few short stories in the Flight anthology, an eight-volume collection of short stories featuring up-and-coming artists and writers. Her work can be found in volumes one, two, and four. She also put together a mini-comic about a girl raised by wolves, which is available to read online. *Anya's Ghost*, published in 2011, is her debut novel.

The novel follows Anya, a Russian-born teenager living in America. Anya struggles to fit in and ignore her heritage, shunning everything from her mother's greasy Russian food to the friendship of the only other Russian born boy in school. One day, fed up with her friend's teasing, her mother's Russian-ness, and her own unhappiness with herself, Anya loses her way and ends up in the woods. There, distracted by her thoughts, she falls into a well. She is very scared and very alone – that is, until she discovers the ghost. Her fear subsides only when she is rescued the next day. The ghost, Emily, follows Anya back to her home, and helps Anya make friends, pass tests, and even look prettier. At first, Anya is thrilled. But as time goes on, she begins

to realize that maybe there was a reason Emily was at the bottom of that well.

One of the major themes of the book is fitting in. Rich, white, upper-class teenagers surround Anya. Anya's mother struggles as an immigrant to support her son and daughter, so most of her money goes to sending Anya to

private school. Not only is Anya poor, but she also looks different from the other kids. She is darker and not-stick-thin and her accent, though mostly gone, used to get her severely teased by her classmates. Anya does not feel like she fits in at all, a feeling that many young adults experience today. Another theme, one that

goes hand in hand with the first, is accepting who you are. Anya is doing her best to forget her past and a culture that continually hangs over her head. Throughout the story, Anya comes to realize that fitting in is not as important as accepting yourself for who you are. The combination of these two themes is wonderfully written

(and drawn) and young teens will certainly be able to relate to Anya.

The graphic novel genre is one that I have not really explored much. I have read Manga versions of my favorite books, like the Maximum Ride series, but the genre has only bloomed in recent years. A similar graphic novel by Gene Luen Yang, *American Born Chinese*, explores many of the same issues that *Anya's Ghost* does: fitting in, being different, and culture clash. Graphic novels are sometimes called a "glorified picture books," but for me, at least, the art adds something that text cannot grasp.

Anya's Ghost is just an enjoyable read. I believe the book is aimed at ages thirteen and up, because of some of the darker material in the book. Brosgol does a wonderful job of developing Anya from a surly, angry teenager into a real character. The change is not forced, but comes naturally with the events of the story and readers will find it believable. In addition, Brosgol's artwork conveys a lot of emotion. Some of the darker material is emphasized by darker artwork, and it truly adds to the story to be able to see the characters and watch their actions as you read. *Anya's Ghost* is a truly good book. It is a believable story with real characters and a heart-warming plot. I would recommend this book to anyone who feels like they do not fit in.



"Anya's Ghost is a well-wrought meshing of teen angst and fantasy, told in a visual style that is perfectly aimed for YA fans, especially girls like Anya. The pictures are lively and sophisticated conveying action and sexuality without hitting you over the head with it. And while Anya does pine for a boyfriend, the book refreshingly doesn't make it the center of her coming-of-age tale." Kathy Ceceri, wired.com

The Woman In Black

By Kristina Hemmerling
Features Writer

Harry Potter was the big "thing" of our generation. Not only were the books a huge hit among young adults and adults alike, but the movies were their own sensation. I knew a girl who liked the movies so much she refused to read the books until she had seen it's corresponding movie.

Based off how big of a hit the movies were, I suppose that those of you who read this (if not all) have seen at least one of the movies and know who Daniel Radcliffe is. Radcliffe has acted in the role of Harry Potter since the first movie came out in 2001. Before that he had two other roles, but I think it's safe to say his true break out role was that of Harry Potter. Along with the movies, there was an episode of *The Children's Party at the Palace*, a UK television show, in which he also played the role of Harry Potter. Radcliffe has had several stage roles as well, most of which came out during the Harry Potter craze. Since the wizarding movies ended many wondered what Radcliffe would do with his career. It was easy to say that he would have trouble getting away from his role as

Harry, but thus far I think he's done a decent job.

His seventh film role outside of the Harry Potter movies, and his first role outside of Harry since the craze ended, *The Woman in Black* was a success.

It premiered on February 5, and a few of my friends and I viewed it shortly after it came out. I was excited to see it. I wanted to see what Radcliffe would be like away from Harry, since I had never seen him in anything else.

The commercials and previews I had seen for the movie gave it a lot of suspense and intrigue, and they made Radcliffe seem separate from the Harry Potter world. The first scene and the song that accompanied it reminded

me immensely of Harry Potter. There was something about the quality of the filming, the way the image looked on the screen, the odd classical-like music that played, and the scream that made me think of Radcliffe's most major role. For a moment I was disappointed, I had hoped he'd be able to get away from all of that, since there would be no more Harry Potter movies. The following scene had a similar feel, perhaps because they showed Radcliffe's face more than a few times and there were ghostly images in his mirror and mind.

As the movie progressed I was happy to find out it pulled away from the wizarding field of films. A darker and more suspenseful tone emerged, and it was easy to see that Radcliffe had grown up since his last stint as Harry, not only in age but also in acting. The movie itself was not the best thing ever, but I enjoyed it. It kept my friends and I interested the whole time, and the ending had a happy but grim ending, something that seems difficult to attain in some ways. I'd give the movie a 7 overall, but a 9 for getting Radcliffe away from his role as Harry Potter.



As we have watched Radcliffe through the years, he went from being a first year student at Hogwarts, to what we see. This is impressive not only because the curriculum at Hogwarts is ridiculous and the teachers are unsocialable and sometimes bitter, but he has emerged on the other side of the series that made branded his name on the acted scene. Some child actors don't get a legitimate career past that, so Kudos to you Radcliffe. We tip our wizard's cap off to you!

Puma Softball Keeps Swinging with Strong Bats and even Stronger Pitching

By Stephanie Wiethop
Special Assistant to the Sports Information Director

Behind two strong pitching performances, the Saint Joseph's College softball team swept University of Missouri- St. Louis Saturday afternoon. Megan Ramey provided SJC with a 4-2 victory in the opener while Sarah Franklin dealt UMSL a 3-2 loss in game two.

Amy Varner led off the third inning with a single. A sacrifice bunt from Kylie Weeks allowed Varner to advance to second. A single from Brittne Boerema advanced Varner to third with one out. Boerema's attempt to steal second forced a throw from Triton's catcher Madison Zbaraschuk allowing Varner to steal home. Boerema scored on the next play as Shawn Hoskins hit an RBI-single to push the lead 3-0.

The Tritons got two runs in the fifth as Leslie David hit a two-run homerun cutting the lead 3-2. The Pumas got insurance in the fifth as Weeks scored off an RBI-single from Audra Rains.

In the second game, Sarah Franklin went seven innings giving up two runs on four hits and striking-out nine. The Pumas scored the first run in the third as Kristin Paris scored off an RBI-single from Weeks.

In the sixth, UMSL got two tallies as Zbaraschuk hit a two-run homerun obtaining a 2-1 lead. However, the Pumas would bounce back in the bottom half as Boerema hit her own two-run



The Lady Pumas celebrate their latest victory. (Photo taken by C.PPS Father Tim McFarland)

homerun that proved to be the game-winner.

On Sunday, the Pumas swept Maryville University. SJC won the opener 7-1 behind Megan Ramey who has won her first seven starts to the season. The Pumas would take game two 6-3 with Sarah Franklin on the mound.

The Pumas (11-3, 4-0 GLVC) started the game with three consecutive singles from Amy Varner, Kylie Weeks and Brittne Boerema. Audra Rains then connected on a two-out RBI-single giving the Pumas a 2-0 edge.

Ramey went four innings giving-up one run on five hits

while striking-out three. Jessica Cates came in relief in the fifth frame, pitching the final three innings, giving-up no hits with one strikeout.

In the bottom of the third Weeks scored off an RBI-single from Hoskins extending the lead 3-1. SJC gained insurance in the fourth inning as Rachel Weaver started the four-run rally with a single. Kristin Paris then drew a walk. Hillary Banks then singled, making it bases loaded with one out. Varner was hit by a pitch, allowing a run to score. Then, on a wild pitch, Paris was able to take home. Finally, Hoskins converted a two-run single that extended the Pumas'

lead to 7-1.

In the second game, Sarah Franklin pitched seven innings giving up three runs on five hits while striking-out four. The Pumas started hitting early on in the second game as Hoskins' three-run homerun in the first gave the Pumas a 3-1. Three consecutive singles from Rains, Tiffany Gibson, and Weaver loaded the bases with one out. Paris would ground out, but was able to bring in another tally. Hilary Banks followed by hitting a two-out double, bringing home Gibson and Weaver to make the score 6-1.

Puma Baseball Looks to Learn From Early Losses

By Daniel Zimmer
Sports Page Editor

The Puma Baseball team comes off a grueling Spring Break schedule which has continued into GLVC Conference play.

The Puma Baseball team traveled to Florida over Spring Break for Spring training, and while the Pumas were hopeful the team knew they had tough challenges ahead of them. The Pumas challenged teams which were all ranked during the building stages of their season.

During the early days of March the baseball team challenged 3 ranked teams in 4 games. Their first game came against No. 26 Mankato State. The team took an early lead on the nation's No. 26 team in Mankato State on Sunday morning. MSU scored all its 11 runs in the final three innings to pick-up an 11-4 victory. The Mavericks ruffed-up the Pumas' bullpen by tying the game and eventually taking the lead with five runs in the bottom of the seventh. SJC used three pitchers in the inning as the big blow

being Nolan Johnson's two-out three run double.

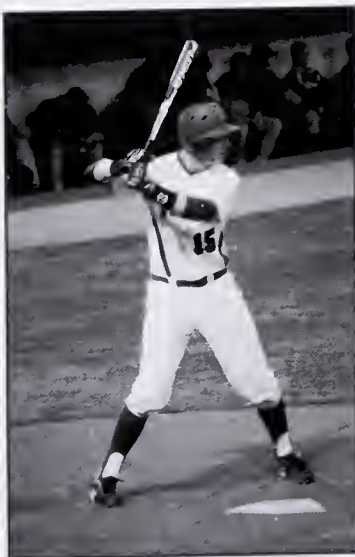
In a quick turn around the Pumas took on the No.1 ranked team University of Tampa. There the Pumas fell 10-1 to top ranked University of Tampa on Monday evening. SJC took an early lead, but the nation's number one produced one big inning to escape with the non-conference victory.

Again the Pumas were beat by small margin when The University of Findlay came from behind on Thursday to defeat the Saint Joseph's College baseball team. SJC committed six errors on the day, suffering a 4-3 loss. Again, costly errors and one strong inning did the Pumas in as the Oilers scored 3 runs in the bottom of the 7th inning.

In their last game during the sunshine state with a match-up against No. 6 Grand Valley State. SJC battled back from an early deficit to tie the game only to fall 9-3 in the late innings. The Pumas looked to be coming out of their slump by rallying to comeback in the game in the 6th inning. However, The Lakers answered in the bottom half with three unearned runs in the sixth and

three more in the seventh frame to pick-up the victory.

The Pumas have now started Conference play and the same story continues with errors and an inning which puts the Pumas behind after dominating the early stages of the games. However, the Pumas remain up beat as the season is still the young and there is still room for growth which should lead to more consistent play.



Kolin Conner bats for SJC. Courtesy of C.PPS. Fr. Tim McFarland.

Puma Throws for Third Straight All- American Honors

By Ken Badylak
Sports Information Director

Kaleb Thompson (Frankfort, Ind., Frankfort) of the Saint Joseph's College men's indoor track and field team finished seventh in the shot-put at the NCAA Championships on Saturday. It is the third time in Thompson's career he has achieved All-American status.

Thompson went into the championships seeded eighth in a strong field where a majority of the competition came from Midwest institutions. His mark of 55 feet, 7.75 inches placed Thompson narrowly behind Ryan Smith of Indianapolis and Wesley Lavong of Adams State. Nick Jones of Abilene Christian took top-honors in the event with a mark of 59 feet 1.5 inches.

This is the first time Thompson has earned All-American honors during the indoor season. He previously finished fifth in the 2011 outdoor season and eighth in the 2010 outdoor season. It also marks the 22nd time an athlete has earned an All-American award



All-American Kaleb Thompson. (Photo taken by C.PPS Father Tim McFarland)

under the tenure of Head Coach Bill Massoels and the eighth time for Throws Coach Joe Koczan.

"I know Kaleb would have liked to improve on his best mark this week, but as a consolation he is a three-time All-American," said Head Coach Massoels who was coaching in his 38th NCAA Championship meet. "This was one of the most competitive fields of the meet and Kaleb will utilize this finish to make a run at the outdoor championships in May."

Upcoming Home Games

3/20/2012

Softball

Lewis University

3:00 PM

3/24/2012

M Tennis

University of Indianapolis

12:00 PM

W Tennis

University of Indianapolis

12:00 PM

Baseball

William Jewell College

12:00 PM

3/25/2012

Baseball

Rockhurst University

12:00 PM

4/3/2012

Baseball

University of Indianapolis

1:00 PM

4/6/2012

Baseball

University of Wisconsin-Parkside

12:00 PM

Softball

University of Southern Indiana

12:00 PM

NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament or Upset central

By Jeremy Butterfield
Sports Editor

For as much as we love to see aesthetically pleasing, up-tempo basketball -- for as much as we enjoy offensive explosions such as the one Kentucky unleashed in a dominant second-half stretch against Iowa State -- the NCAA tournament is no place for beautiful basketball. Games constrict. Reliable shots prove themselves otherwise. Best-laid plans falter under the pressure of desperation. Teams must find the great, terrible truth behind their often-dire situations

The NCAA tournament doesn't require style. It doesn't care for margin of victory. It merely requires that you win. Now that we're past the wide-open promise of the Round of 64, this maxim comes into stark focus -- and Saturday was that sort of day. There weren't really any all-out routs -- Kentucky, Syracuse and Baylor didn't pull away until well into the second half -- and the rest of the victors had to either rally late or hold off a second-half run or close out one-possession affairs in the final stretches. Sometimes all three.

That was true throughout, as the VCU Rams shot 9-of-30 from beyond the arc. It was crucial on the final possession, when the Rams, down two, found a wide-open 3 for Rob Brandenburg, who promptly clanged it off the rim. The Hoosiers won the



Coach Jim Boehim talks to Scoop Jardine from Syracuse University (Picture from Google)

game thanks to that stop, thanks to six consecutive long-range misses from the Rams down the stretch and thanks to the powers of adaptation -- less Hulls, more Victor Oladipo and Cody Zeller; fewer jumpers, more penetration and attack.

Same goes for Wisconsin. The Badgers slowly and methodically built a 53-44 lead over Vanderbilt with six minutes left in the second half, but Vandy's trio of skilled seniors -- Festus Ezeli, John Jenkins and Jeffery Taylor -- were determined to punch back. And they did. What resulted was a back-and-forth final four minutes that featured fewer buckets than big defensive plays, fewer finishes than key offensive rebounds. Up 59-57 in the final moments, the Badgers grabbed two -- one by Josh Gasser, one by Jared Berggren -- that helped close

the game in decidedly ugly but satisfactory fashion.

For all the pluckiness of said lower-seeded teams, one other theme emerged: the importance of 3-point shooting. Simply put, Saturday's losers had one thing in common -- missed 3s. Gonzaga went 8-of-23 from beyond the arc. Murray State shot 4-of-21. Vanderbilt went 4-of-19. VCU shot 9-of-30. Kansas State went 4-of-17. Colorado was 5-of-15. New Mexico made just five of its 24 attempts, and Iowa State finished a dreadful 3-of-22. And so it was that we ended up with eight higher-rated seeds advancing to next week's Sweet 16. A couple of No. 1 seeds (plus Baylor) made a statement, but more often, the theme was simple: You don't have to play perfect basketball to survive in the NCAA tournament.

Thompson Becomes Three-Time All-American; Leads Pumas to 4th at GLVC

By J.J. Miller
Staff Writer

While the majority of SJC was on Spring Break, Senior Kaleb Thompson was in Minnesota doing work. The two-time All-American in outdoor track finally claimed his first indoor title, as he took 7th place with a mark of 55" 7.75". This marks the 22nd All-American award earned by a SJC athlete under Head Coach Bill Massoels, and the 8th time a thrower has earned the honor under throwing coach Joe Koczan.

At the GLVC Conference Meet, Thompson's marks of 55' 11.75" and 56' 11.25" placed him 2nd in the shot put and 4th in the

weight throw to lead the Pumas to a 4th place finish overall. Junior Joe Took finished 1st in the triple jump with a mark of 44' 11.75", while sophomore Mike Fauser finished 1st in the 800 meter run, with a mark of 1:54.18. Sophomore Richard Kaht finished 4th in the 5,000 meter run with a time of 15:14.21, and set the SJC record in the 3,000 meter run in a time of 8:41.91. Jeremiah Wright rounded out the scoring for the Pumas with his 3rd place finish, with a time of 7.76. The Pumas finished with a team score of 73 points, 12 points behind Bellermino, who placed third. Indianapolis took the top honors with 189 points, while Missouri S&T took second with 98 points.

The Lady Pumas took 7th as a team. Freshman Sam Nirva placed 6th in the pentathlon with a total score of 2,891 points. She followed up with a 4th place finish in the 55 meter hurdles with a time of 8.63. Senior Alicia Allen claimed 3rd in the triple jump with a mark of 36' 10.25", while freshman Tiffany McCoy took 5th in the same event with her mark of 35' 2". Andie Strang rounded out the scoring with her 8th place finish in the mile, with a time of 5:19.97.

The Pumas continue on into outdoor track & field season with the Gene and Rose Edmonds Invitational here at SJC on March 24th.

1st Annual SJC Puma 3v3 Indoor "Do It, You Won't" Soccer Tournament

Hosted by the Women's Soccer Team

What: Most exciting indoor soccer tournament in the area! Fast-paced! Fun! Competitive! Fun!

Where: Hanson Recreation Center

When: Saturday, April 14, 2012 (Games start at 5pm)

Last day to register: Friday, March 30th

Fee: \$50 per team (Maximum 5 players: 1 girl on every team REQUIRED)

For more information, please Email or Call Amy Duba: aduba@saintjoe.edu or 219-866-6496



Puma Athlete Profile:

By: Dan Zimmer
Sports Editor

Rylan Gentil is a Freshman Soccer player. He is a Physical Therapy Major.



What is your home town?
Poseyville, IN

What is your position?
I'm a goalie.

Is It weird being the only one to use your hands?
Yeah. Since there are more rules to follow as a goalie. It makes me have to be more focused.

How long have you been playing?
6 years.

Biggest celebrity crush and why?
Alex Morgan. I mean google search her from the U.S. Women's National Team. She's gorgeous.

Favorite ice cream flavor?
Cookie Dough.

Most Embarrassing story?
Over Spring Break I ripped 2 pairs of pants within 12 hours of each other.

What is your best excuse to skip Core lecture?
Easy, I had to beat Batman Arkham City.

SJC Swats Spartans 8-1

By Ken Badylak
Sports Information Director

The Saint Joseph's College men's tennis team returned home to defeat Aurora University on Sunday afternoon. SJC dropped 19 games on the day en route to an 8-1 victory.

With weather looming on the horizon, both teams opted to play the singles matches first. The Pumas (11-8) won five of the six points as Danny James (Cincinnati, Ohio, Elder) recorded a 6-0, 6-0 victory at number three singles. The Spartans (0-2) lone point came at number one singles where Ricky Hernandez defeated Joseph Bomben (Toronto, Ontario, Canada, St. Thomas of Villanova) in three sets. Bomben took the first set 6-0-, but lost the next two sets 6-1, 10-6.

James and Seth Arthur (Allegan, Mich., Allegan) teamed-up for an 8-0 victory at number two doubles as did Joseph Scott (Gross Point, Mich., Gross Pointe Woods) and Matt Slawson (Crown Point, Ind., Lake Central) at the number three match. The Pumas completed the sweep of doubles after Adam Meeker (Schereville, Ind., Lake Central) and Carl Fisher (Kankakee, Ill., Bishop McNamara Catholic) won

an 8-5 decision at the number one doubles match.

The Pumas will open Great Lakes Valley Conference play on Saturday by hosting the University of Indianapolis. The match is scheduled to start at 12 pm CDT.



Katie Phillips returns the ball (Photo by C.P.P.S. Father Tim McFarland)

Fountain Stone Theaters

Movies for March 22
(219) 866-2222
fountainstonetheaters.com

Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance (PG-13)
6:50

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG)
4:50

21 Jump Street (R)
4:40, 6:40

The Lorax (PG)
4:40

John Carter (PG-13)
6:20

Project X (R)
5:00, 7:00

Coming Soon
The Hunger Games

The Ritz Cinema

Movies for March 22
(219) 866-0086
www.ritzcinema.net
All movies begin at 7:00 M-F
Matinees Sat/Sun 2:00

Big Miracle (PG)

Last in the Alphabet, First in Love: Dan Zimmer Dating Tips

By Daniel Zimmer
Sports Editor



Dear Dan,

I know my partner is having financial troubles, and I want to show my support. I was thinking I could take them out on a date to show it, but I'm worried that they'll take offense, thinking I was treating them like charity. Any advice?

Well, first I'm sorry that your partner is falling victim to the end of the school year penny pinching days already. I wish them the best as I know those are stressful times. I'm sure

lots of readers are feeling the same strain.

As for handling the possibly fragile ego of your partner; that's a delicate matter. Like any situation though, how the matter is handled is key. I too fall victim to this ego. My girlfriend has a big date planned for me soon to a fancy restaurant. I'm a little nervous about it, one because I know it's a big deal for her, and I do not want to blow it or offend her. You're probably in the same state of mind.

Try not to be nervous, they are your partner after all, and should be understanding about what you are trying to do. You don't even have to mention that you are taking them out because you might be the one in the relationship who can afford it.

Communication is key. The fact that you're willing to write me and ask for help

already speaks volumes. Tell them that. Your asking for help and advice and that shows you care. Isn't that the reason you want to take them out anyway? They should hopefully see your gesture of taking them out on a date as a way of helping to cope with the stress of financial problems.

Relationships are, and should be, an equal partnership, and in today's society there really isn't a token "bread winner." I'd say you make it clear this is for support and a show of affection. They'll always love you and carry you in their heart.

Got a dating question? Send your dating questions to Dan at dzq7803@saintjoe.edu.

Overheard

If you've heard anything scandalous at the cafeteria, anything outrageous enough that you can't keep it to yourself, then look no further! Submit your anonymous comments to ehq7585@saintjoe.edu today to let your peers' voices be heard!

"I wish I were Indian or Spanish or something! Or you know, like Italian..."

"I told you how I want to die right? At 90, in childbirth."

"There's a video of me on YouTube throwing up!"

"All of these improvements are bad!"

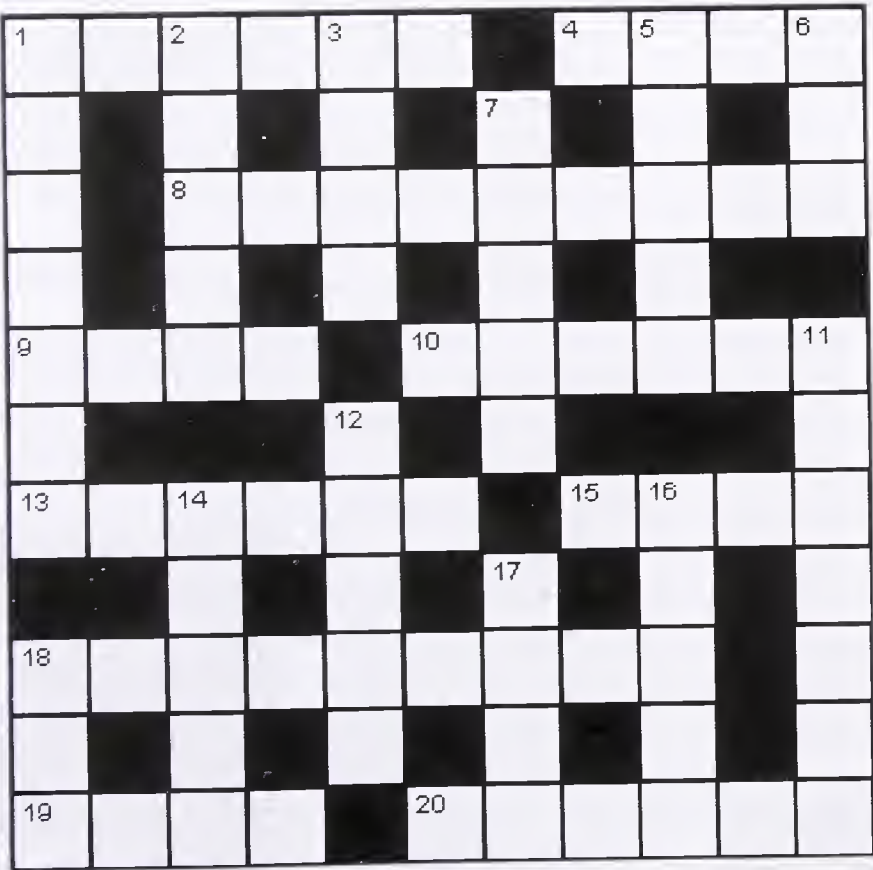
"If you create a black hole, it's going to destroy the world no matter where you put it!"

Reasons to Party

- March 21st-The first day of spring
- March 23rd, 1912-The Dixie Cup is invented
- March 24th, 1971-The first pine tree air freshener is introduced
- March 25th, 1947-Elton John's birthday
- March 27th, 28th, and 29th-Liz Taylor's wedding anniversaries
- March 31st, 1978-An easy listening radio station in Annandale, Virginia is blown up
- April 1st-April Fool's Day
- April 2nd, 1978-Velcro is introduced
- April 3rd, 1961-Eddie Murphy's birthday
- April 5th, 1953-The first issue of TV Guide goes on the market
- April 6, 1945-Bob Marley's birthday

WOULD YOU RATHER...

- ...marry the person you are in love with, or marry the person who is in love with you?
- ...end racism or sexism?
- ...be a worried genius or a joyful simpleton?
- ...have a naked picture of yourself on the internet that you can't remove, or jump off a bridge and have a slow, painful recovery?
- ...know the date of your death or the cause of death?
- ...have a personal jet or a personal yacht?



Across

- 1. Elementary (6)
- 4. Sort (4)
- 8. Made known (9)
- 9. Scintilla (4)
- 10. Season (6)
- 13. Fluent (6)
- 15. Unguent (4)
- 18. Reptile (9)
- 19. Bed on a ship or train (4)
- 20. Conflict (6)

Down

- 1. Law officer (7)
- 2. Intended (5)
- 3. Solitary (4)
- 5. Watercraft (5)
- 6. Conclusion (3)
- 7. Sound (5)
- 11. Violent disorder (7)
- 12. Flower (5)
- 14. Diadem (5)
- 16. Obviate (5)
- 17. Passport endorsement (4)
- 18. Young mammal (3)